



# KELLY'S CRIME CORNER

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## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

The calendar has flipped to September, and even though it still feels like summer, our kids have gone back to school. There are many dangers out there for our children as they make their way to school - whether they walk, ride their bicycles, or take the bus.

This issue of Kelly's Crime Corner is dedicated to making sure that the children in our community stay safe when traveling to school. Below you will find safety tips to help your children safely navigate their way to school. Please share these with your children!

### WALKING TO SCHOOL

- Walk to school with a group of kids and always have a responsible adult with you
- Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available
- If no sidewalk is available, walk facing the traffic
- The safest place to cross the street is at a street corner or intersection
- If you are 10 years old or younger, you need to cross the street with an adult
- Before you step off the curb to cross the street, stop and look all ways to see if cars are coming
- When no cars are coming, it is safe for you and an adult to cross. Make sure to look left-right-left as you cross, and hold the adult's hand
- **WALK**, don't run. This gives drivers time to see you before you enter the roadway. Running also makes you more likely to fall in the street
- Don't dart out in front of a parked car. The driver of the car coming down the street will not be able to see you



## RIDING A BICYCLE TO SCHOOL

- **ALWAYS** wear your helmet when riding your bicycle
- Make sure that your helmet fits correctly - the helmet should fit low on your forehead so that two fingers fit between it and your eyebrows. Another way to check is to put the helmet on your head and look up. If you can't see your helmet, it is too far back
- You need to know the rules of the road. If you don't, then you should not ride in traffic or without an adult
- Ride on the right side of the road in a single file line, in the same direction as vehicles on the roadway
- When you ride your bicycle, try to wear bright colors during the day and right before the sun rises or sets
- If you have to ride your bicycle at night, you should ride with an adult. You need a white light on the front of your bicycle, and a red reflector on the back. You can also get lights and reflective materials to put on your shoes, helmet, and clothing



## RIDING THE BUS TO SCHOOL

### ***Getting on the School Bus***

- When the bus arrives, stand at least three giant steps (six feet) away from the curb
- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road until you are five giant steps (ten feet) ahead of the bus. Then you can cross the street
- Be sure the bus driver can see you and you can see the bus driver
- Never walk behind the bus
- If you drop something near the bus, tell the bus driver. Never try to pick it up first because the driver may not be able to see you
- Make sure the bus driver can see you
- Wait for a signal from the driver before beginning to cross
- While crossing the road, keep an eye out for sudden traffic changes
- Stay away from the wheels of the bus at all times

### ***Getting off the School Bus***

- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk at least ten feet ahead of the bus until you can turn around and see the driver

